

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY, AND FEDERAL RELATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Daniel Zolnikov, on March 8, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Daniel Zolnikov, Chair (R)
Rep. Denise Hayman, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Derek Skees, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)
Rep. Geraldine Custer (R)
Rep. Adam Hertz (R)
Rep. Nate McConnell (D)
Rep. James O'Hara (R)
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)
Rep. Zac Perry (D)
Rep. Alan Redfield (R)
Rep. Adam Rosendale (R)
Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Austin Knudsen (R)
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)
Rep. Shane A. Morigeau (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Sydney Kessel, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HR 2, 2/27/2017; SB 78, 2/27/2017; SB 164, 2/27/2017

00:01:02 Chair Zolnikov relinquishes the Chair to Vice Chair Skees

HEARING ON HR 2

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:19 Rep. Daniel Zolnikov (R), HD 45, opened the hearing on HR 2, House resolution supporting elimination of Montana intertie rate.

[EXHIBIT\(feh48a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:37 Travis Kavulla, Public Service Commission (PSC)

00:09:54 Jeff Fox, Renewable North West (RNW)

[EXHIBIT\(feh48a02\)](#)

00:16:04 Jon Metropoulous, Talen Energy LLC

00:17:27 Brian Faddie, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:18:18 Doug Hardy, Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association (MECA)

[EXHIBIT\(feh48a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh48a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(feh48a05\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:33:09 Vice Chair Hayman

00:33:58 Travis Kavulla, PSC

00:37:54 Vice Chair Hayman

00:38:19 Travis Kavulla, PSC

00:38:41 Vice Chair Hayman

00:39:13 Travis Kavulla, PSC

00:40:25 Rep. Olsen

00:41:00 Doug Hardy, MECA

00:41:38 Rep. Olsen

00:42:01 Doug Hardy, MECA

00:42:41 Rep. Olsen

00:42:53 Doug Hardy, MECA

00:43:25 Rep. Olsen

00:43:49 Brian Faddie, MEIC

00:45:43 Rep. O'Hara

00:46:07 Travis Kavulla, PSC

Closing by Sponsor:

00:47:43 Rep. Zolnikov

00:48:43 Rep. Zolnikov resumes the Chair

HEARING ON SB 164

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:49:08 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB 164, Revise northwest power and conservation council member appointment laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:52:45 Rex Griffin, Western Montana Electric Generating and Transmission Cooperative & Ravalli County Electric Cooperative

EXHIBIT(feh48a06)

00:56:03 Gary Wiens, Montana Electric Cooperatives' Association (MECA)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:57:26 Rep. Olsen
00:57:31 Rep. Morigeau Joined the Meeting
00:58:29 Sen. Regier
00:59:29 Rep. Custer
00:59:45 Sen Regier
00:59:54 Gary Wiens, MECA
01:00:27 Rep. Bishop
01:01:05 Sen. Regier
01:01:48 Gary Wiens, MECA

Closing by Sponsor:

01:02:21 Sen. Regier

01:03:15 Recess
01:06:11 Reconvene

01:06:31 Chair Zolnikov relinquishes the Chair to Rep. Morigeau

HEARING ON SB 78

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:06:58 Sen. Keith Regier (R), SD 3, opened the hearing on SB 78, Revise reimbursement of net metered generators.

EXHIBIT(feh48a07)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:15:47 John Alke, North Western Energy (NWE)
01:22:02 Gary Forrester, Montana Dakota Utilities (MDU)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:23:13 Brad Vanwert, Harvest Solar
01:27:13 Connor Darby, Self

01:30:25 Jack Isbell, Solar Montana

01:33:13 Jim Baerg, Self

EXHIBIT(feh48a08)

01:40:58 David Ryan, Self

01:48:18 Dan Cottrell, Self

01:50:17 Joan Kresich, Self

01:52:09 Ken Decker, Self

01:53:41 Roger McGlenn, Self

EXHIBIT(feh48a09)

01:54:11 Andrew Valainis, Montana Renewable Energy Resource (MREA)

01:56:11 Tucker Finley, (MTPIRG)

01:58:00 Abigail Belcher, Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM)

01:58:25 Brian Fadie, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

01:59:51 Adam Haight, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)

02:00:41 Jeff Fox, Renewable North West (RNW)

Informational Testimony:

02:01:15 Will Rosquist, Public Service Commission (PSC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:01:48 Rep. Redfield

02:02:14 Connor Darby, Self

02:02:46 Rep. Redfield

02:03:02 Connor Darby, Self

02:03:36 Rep. Bishop

02:04:11 Will Rosquist, PSC

02:05:44 Rep. Bishop

02:06:07 Will Rosquist, PSC

02:07:16 Rep. Rosendale

02:08:21 Jim Baerg, Self

02:08:30 Rep. Rosendale

02:09:13 Rep. Zolnikov

02:09:45 John Alke, NWE

02:10:21 Vice Chair Skees

02:10:51 Sen. Regier

02:11:06 Vice Chair Skees

02:11:57 Sen. Regier

Closing by Sponsor:

02:12:22 Sen. Regier

02:14:57 Rep. Zolnikov resumes the Chair

02:15:11 Chair Zolnikov

02:17:35 Rep. Olsen

02:17:54 Chair Zolnikov

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 02:18:29

Sydney Kessel, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([feh48aad.pdf](#))